REMARKS

The present Amendment provides express reference to priority Applications in the

Specification.

The new claims mirror original claims 1-19, which have been canceled without

prejudice of or disclaimer as to their subject matter. Applicants reserve the right to file

continuations or divisionals on this or any subject matter canceled during prosecution and

by way of this Preliminary Amendment. The new claims are submitted for the Examiner's

convenience and merely place the claims in better form for examination. As the new

claims are supported by at least the original claims, the new claims are not believed to add

any prohibited new matter.

The amendments to the specification likewise merely correct notation placing the

scientific notation in standard format as would be evident to an artisan of ordinary skill.

Again, no prohibited new matter is believed to have been added.

The examination and allowance of the Application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: <u>October 22, 2003</u>

Deborah H. Yellen Reg. No. 45,904 for Mercedes K. Meyer, Ph.D., Esq.

Registration No. 44,939

P.O. Box 1404

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404

(703) 836-6620